

## Message Text

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51

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 SSC-01 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

EB-07 COME-00 INT-05 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 STR-04 OES-03

FEA-01 /074 W

----- 012902

R 150845Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9569

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 2012

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV MY

SUBJ: AGRICULTURE MIN BECOMES ACTING PM: DEPUTY PM

ILL

1. WITH THE DEPARTURE OF PM RAZAK FOR ENGLAND, STOCKHOLM, JAMAICA (COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTER'S CONFERENCE) AND FRANCE ON APRIL 12, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT ABDUL GHAFAR BABA HAS BEEN NAMED ACTING PM. DEPUTY PM DATUK HUSSEIN ONN IS STILL RESTING UNDER DOCTOR'S ORDERS FOLLOWING A HEART ATTACK FOR WHICH HE WAS HOSPITALIZED MARCH 22, 1975. WHILE THE MALAYSIAN PRESS REPORTED HUSSEIN ONN'S ENTRY INTO HOSPITAL, THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTS OF THE NATURE OF HIS ILLNESS OR OF HIS PROGRESS, EXCEPT A STATEMENT MADE YESTERDAY THAT HE IS "IN FOR A REST", TO EXPLAIN HIS FAILURE TO MAKE A SCHEDULED SPEECH OPENING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK. A RELIABLE PRESS SOURCE REPORTS THAT HIS ATTACK WAS SERIOUS ENOUGH TO REQUIRE OXYGEN IN THE PERIOD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ITS OCCURRENCE.

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2. COMMENT: SEVERAL GOVT OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED

DISQUIET TO EMBOFFS REGARDING THE EFFECT ON  
DOMESTIC POLITICS SHOULD DATUK HUSSEIN'S ILLNESS  
PROVE SERIOUSLY INCAPACITATING. ALTHOUGH WITHOUT  
A LARGE PERSONAL FOLLOWING, HUSSEIN IS WIDELY  
RESPECTED FOR HIS HONESTY, SINCERITY AND  
PRAGMATISM. WHILE HE HAS NOT COMPLETELY FILLED  
THE SHOES OF THE PREVIOUS DPM, THE LATE TUN ISMAIL,  
HE HAS PROVIDED AN IMPORTANT BALANCE TO TUN RAZAK'S  
LESS DIRECT APPROACH TO DECISION MAKING AND TO  
THE MANEUVERINGS OF OTHER POWERFUL UMNO  
POLITICAL FIGURES SUCH AS HOME AFFAIRS MIN GHAZALI  
SHAFIE, PETRONAS CHIEF TENGKU RAZALEIGH, AND  
DEPUTY MIN IN PM'S DEPT ABDULLAH AHMAD. (RUMOR HAS IT  
THAT SINCE HE WAS IN HOSPITAL THE DPM WAS NOT  
CONSULTED BEFORE THE RECEFA AMENDMENTS TO THE  
PETROLEUM ACT WERE PUSHED THROUGH THE CABINET AND  
THE PARLIAMENT AND WAS QUITE UPSET TO LEARN OF  
THEM.)  
UNDERHILL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRIME MINISTER, PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 15 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975KUALA02012  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750131-0121  
**From:** KUALA LUMPUR  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750449/aaaabthu.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AGRICULTURE MIN BECOMES ACTING PM: DEPUTY PM ILL  
**TAGS:** PGOV, MY, (GHAFAR BIN BABA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006